Non-effective anti-rabies serum

1672. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of people have been killed due to non-effective anti-rabies serum available in the market;

(b) if so, whether CARIG (anti-rabies serum) from Cadila Pharmaceuticals Ltd. has caused deaths of several patients;

(c) the action being taken to prevent the use of such vaccines; and

(d) the details of action being taken against such pharma companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) This Ministry has not received any specific information from State Licensing Authorities about deaths of people due to non effectiveness of anti-rabies serum available in the market.

(b) to (d) As per the information received from the Commissioner, FDA Gujarat, there is no death reported following administration of anti rabies serum (CARIG) manufactured by M/s. Cadila Pharmaceuticals, Ahmedabad.

UPA's programme for population control

1673. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDI SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present Government's National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) for a sharply focused family control programme; and

(b) the steps taken to control towards population stabilization in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The National Common Minimum Programme aims at promoting population stabilization programme focusing on high fertility States through strengthening comprehensive primary health care.

(b) Accordingly, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has conceptualized the strategy for the "National Rural Health Mission" to cover the entire country, with special focus on 17 States, including the high fertility States, for comprehensive integrated primary health care services. Such a proposal is under the consideration of the Government. The Government is already implementing the Reproductive and Child Health Programme for achieving Population Stabilization, by simultaneously addressing the issues of Contraception, Maternal and Child Health Programme. The stress is on sustained behavioural change communication and improved access to quality family planning services, especially in the high fertility States.

Vaccination for Encephalitis

†1674. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that Indian Scientists have found effective vaccination for the prevention of Japanese brain fever (Encephalitis) and if so, the extent of its effectiveness;

(b) the efforts Government of India are making to provide the said vaccination developed by the Scientists of Department of Bio-technology in the Ministry of Science and Technology to the common people of the country; and

(c) whether Government are having data with regard to the deaths taken place in Maharashtra, U.P., Bihar and West Bengal during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Attempts to develop a newer tissue culture derived inactivated vaccine against Japanese Encephalitis (JE) are being made by the Scientists at India Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT).

The DBT has supported research activities for improvement in the current vaccine development strategies for JE and newer approaches to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.